# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2337
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2005
EXTRACTION OF HYDROCARBONS
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether keeping in view the limited reserves of Hydrocarbons in India, whether the Government has asked the Public Sector Oil Companies and other corporate bodies to extend their activities in exploration and extraction of Hydrocarbons outside India;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to remove the cap on investment in this sector in Gulf, African and Asian countries where Hydrocarbons reserves are high;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the incentives proposed to be given by the Government to the companies who invest in a big way?

## Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a): To enhance the country's energy security, in keeping with the objectives of the Energy Security section of the National Common Minimum Programme, National Oil Companies such as ONGC Videsh Ltd. (OVL), IOC, OIL and GAIL, have been pursuing the acquisition of equity oil and gas abroad, as well as the overseas acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties. These companies have Participating Interests in oil and gas projects located in Vietnam, Sudan, Russia, Iraq, Iran, Myanmar, Libya, Syria, Australia, Ivory Coast, Qatar and Egypt.

(b): Government give approvals based on the merits of the proposal and its overall policy to enhance the energy security of the country. There is no cap on investment.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): Companies may seek certain fiscal incentives for their overseas operations, which requests Government decides on merits.